

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-23 (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide fragment comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 ~~The peptide fragment of claim 19~~, wherein said fragment lacks one or more of the N-terminal residues set forth in SEQ ID NO. 1 and is capable of promoting transcription of tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- α) by binding to a region of the TNF- α promoter.

25. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide fragment comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 ~~The peptide fragment of claim 19~~, wherein said fragment lacks one or more of the C-terminal residues set forth in SEQ ID NO. 1 and is capable of promoting transcription of tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- α) by binding to a region of the TNF- α promoter.

26. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide fragment comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 ~~The peptide fragment of claim 19~~, wherein said fragment lacks one or more of the N-terminal and C-terminal residues set forth in SEQ ID NO. 1 and is capable of

promoting transcription of tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- α) by binding to a region of the TNF- α promoter.

27-53 (Cancelled)

54. (New) The peptide fragment of claim 24, wherein said TNF- α is human.

55. (New) The peptide fragment of claim 25, wherein said TNF- α is human.

56. (New) The peptide fragment of claim 26, wherein said TNF- α is human.

57. (New) An isolated peptide fragment, wherein said fragment consists of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 and is capable of promoting transcription of tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- α) by binding to a region of the TNF- α promoter.

58. (New) The peptide fragment of claim 57, wherein said TNF- α is human.

59. (New) An isolated peptide fragment, wherein said fragment consists of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 and is capable of promoting transcription of tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- α) by binding to a region of the TNF- α promoter.

60. (New) The peptide fragment of claim 59, wherein said TNF- α is human.